

FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



Freshman Class has the Opportunity to Reach Its Fullest Potential

Faculty and staff welcome new and returning students as the fall 2006 semester officially gets underway. Although the final numbers won't be reported to SUNY until later in the semester, it's safe to say the College has a large and outstanding class of freshman students starting their academic adventure at SUNY Plattsburgh.


"On behalf of SUNY Plattsburgh – its faculty, staff and upperclassmen – we give a hearty welcome to our new students, both freshman and transfer students," said President John Ettling. "SUNY Plattsburgh provides all students a rich learning environment led by our outstanding faculty and caring staff. Students have the opportunity to reach their fullest potential during this transformational time in their lives. This is the 'Plattsburgh Experience.'"

Surpassing our goal of 975 freshman students, more than 1,075

freshmen were expected to move in and begin classes this semester. Due to the high demand, the Admissions Office started to turn away first-year applicants in May as well as those whose deposits were late beyond announced deadlines.

"Our freshman class for fall looks very promising," said Ettling. "Members of the admissions staff should be proud of the hard work they've done during the past year bringing in this class of freshmen. This has also been a College-wide effort, and everyone should feel good about what we have accomplished in terms of our incoming freshman class."

Many activities are planned for opening week. For the detailed list of activities and information about opening week, visit <http://www.plattsburgh.edu/studentlife/openingweekinfo.php> □



"SUNY Plattsburgh provides all students a rich learning environment led by our outstanding faculty and caring staff."

It's Going to be Different



Among the new freshman students are two of a family of quintuplets. Jennifer (l) and Ellen(r) Cangialosi, from Long Island, will have a unique transition to college life.

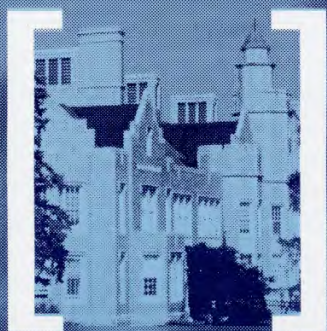
"It's going to be different," said Ellen. "Being around each other is all we've ever known."

On Oct. 15, 1988, Angelo and Alice Cangialosi became the parents of quintuplets. Now all five children are heading off to college. Jennifer

and Ellen's siblings will be going to three other colleges in the Northeast.

"SUNY Plattsburgh was one of the few colleges that I was interested in," said Ellen. "It worked out for me to come here, and I'm really glad it did. It seems really nice up here."

Jennifer is interested in pursuing a degree in nursing while Ellen is thinking about majoring in communication. □



FOCUS

Taking Plastic . . . Online

Paying tuition and other fees has become more convenient for students thanks to the new online payment option. Student Accounts initially offered online payment in February to 450 students.

"We wanted to test this new feature and fix any glitches," said Greg Withrow, associate director of Student Financial Services. "In March, we offered online payment to all students."

Excited about its success so far, Withrow announced that more than \$4 million has been received in cumulative online payments since February. To give an idea of how fast this new feature is catching on, consider this: Last spring, 418 students made at least one payment online, which was eight percent of all payments made that semester. As of Friday, Aug. 17, more than 2,700 students have paid online for fall semester, which accounts for 57 percent of all payments made so far.

"I find it very convenient," said Michael Cashman '03, Student Association president and online bill-payer. "I see it as a positive advantage for the institution to provide this service for students and families."

Financial Aid and Student Accounts Merge

A single point of contact

is the ultimate goal behind the latest change within the Business Affairs Division. The Financial Aid and Student Account offices have merged to become Student Financial Services.

"The goal is to provide better services to students and parents and to have a single point of contact," said Todd Moravec (l), former director of Financial Aid and the new director of Student Financial Services.

Former director of Student Accounts, Greg Withrow (r), has become the associate director of the new combined operation. Jody Fessette and Kerry Lubold are the two assistant directors.

"We are formalizing the direction that we were already heading down," said Moravec. "We will be able to provide better service with increased technology and more effective communications."

Withrow explained that there are three main areas of integration for the two operations. The first is technological, making sure the two systems are integrated within Banner to one system. Work on this has already begun. The second area of integration involves staffing. Staff has and will continue to participate in cross-training in both Financial Aid and Student Accounts. The third area is physical integration.

"This will help students and parents who come to see us," said Withrow. "It will be a single point of contact."

Preliminary discussions have taken place about housing the two offices together.

"This is a transition year for both



offices," said Moravec. "We will continue with upgrading the technology, cross-training and synthesizing our back-end work. The benefits won't be fully realized until we are physically integrated."

Withrow said that it was a natural merger between the two offices.

"Financial Aid and Student Accounts are two sides of the same coin. We work closer together than any other student service area. As we offer more and more online services, this will push the physical integration. Students won't have to go to so many different offices."

One of the newer online services is the online payment option, which provides several advantages for students. First, students can pay online 24/7 whereas if they pay at the window, they're limited to Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. A second advantage is that students get immediate confirmation of their payments. After making an online payment, students can see their payment applied to their accounts immediately with their balance already updated.

Moravec added, "As we continue to improve service levels, it naturally leads in the direction we are going. With efficiencies and economies of scale, we will be able to refocus efforts on additional student services." □

'4 or Fewer' Campaign offers Positive Reinforcement

The posters say "4 or Fewer," but the campaign that calls attention to students' drinking habits is more than just posters.

It's the means to the message, said Jeremy Blowers '95 G'97, who through the Student Health and Psychological Services Center is in charge of a campaign to promote responsibility. "The posters are the outward face of the campaign. It's more about an idea, a message that reflects back to students what they themselves have reported."

That's the fact that the majority of SUNY Plattsburgh students have four or fewer drinks a week, a statistic that seems out of line with the image of partying college students.

"It's true," Blowers said. "When we first started the campaign, I'd have

students say they like the posters, but they weren't sure the information was true. I tell them it's not my information; it came from a survey that students responded to."

The survey asked students a variety of questions, including their drinking habits.

"When the stats came back, we found that more than 50 percent drink four or fewer a week," he said. "I've had students come up to me and say they don't drink and by seeing this message on the posters, they see that others don't as well. It makes them feel their choice is a good one, that others are out there making the same choice."

From the posters, Blowers hopes students will see that this is their project. His office sponsors giveaways

of notepads, pens, phone calling cards with information on the issues surrounding alcohol use.

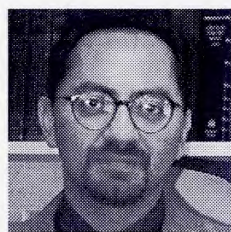
The overall campaign is part of a \$250,000 grant from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS).

"It's a sizeable grant, and one we're very proud of, being one of only seven schools in New York to have received one," Blowers said.

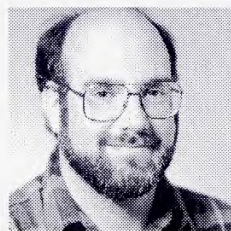
Funding is spread out over four years, and the campaign also includes the Drinking is Not a Minor Problem program, which targets underage drinking.

For more information on the "4 or Fewer" campaign or the OASAS grant, contact Student Health and Psychological Services Center at 564-2187. ■

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. Fernando Iturburu, associate professor of foreign languages and literature, published an interview with Ecuadorian writer Miguel Donoso Pareja in the literary magazine, *Cátedra*, of the Puebla, Mexican newspaper, *Síntesis*, published in April. His paper "Heterosexualidad y diferencias generacionales en la literatura ecuatoriana" on Ecuadorian gay literature will also be published in *Revista Iberoamericana* (ILLI-University of Pittsburgh).

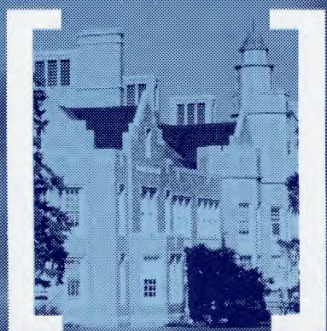


Dr. Sam Northshield, professor of mathematics, attended and presented at the 44th International Symposium on Functional Equations held in Louisville, Ky., in May. His presentation was titled, "On Two Types of Exotic Addition." He also attended and spoke at the 12th International Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and their Applications, which was held in San Francisco, Calif., in July. His presentation was titled, "Summing across Pascal's Triangle."



Arlene Sabo, University Police chief, made a presentation with Rich Allen from Mountain Lake PBS at the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators 48th annual Conference and Exposition in Orlando, Fla., in June. Their session was titled, "Hazing Examined."

To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to news@plattsburgh.edu



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Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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Assistant Editor: Gerianne Wright

Fall 2006 FOCUS Schedule

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Institutional Advancement

Office of Public Relations
 113 Hawkins Hall
 564-2090 • 564-2094 (fax)
news@plattsburgh.edu

Archaeological Collection Donated to Adirondack Museum

An important collection of artifacts associated with the 19th century iron industry in the Adirondacks has been donated by SUNY Plattsburgh to the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y.

The materials, from the Clintonville Lower Forge Site in the AuSable River Valley, were excavated by Dr. Gordon Pollard, professor of anthropology, and 50 of his students between 1994 and 2001. The archaeological work had been carried out through the courtesy of the Clintonville site property owners Elizabeth King, Mary Lahut and the late Marion Arthur.

Approximately two-and-a-half tons of iron and other artifacts were donated to the museum. Materials included rare specimens of the heavy, cast-iron plates that were part of the fireboxes of the bloomery forges used to smelt local iron ores and produce top quality wrought iron.

Staff from the Adirondack Museum, including Curator Laura Rice and Conservator Doreen Alessi, visited the archaeology lab at SUNY



Plattsburgh in early July to assess the materials

Rice said, "The gift of the Clintonville artifacts to the Adirondack Museum is an important one. Some of these artifacts are exceptionally rare, and they present us with an extraordinary opportunity to reconstruct a portion of the bloomery forge. All together, these objects will expand our understanding of 19th century ore processing technology and open a window into the daily routine of the people who worked there. We'll be able to interpret an important part of the Adirondack mining story in a new way." □

>> NOTEBOOK

- A new faculty reception will be hosted by Omicron Delta Kappa on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 4:30 p.m. in the Alumni Conference Room, Angell College Center.
- On Thursday, Sept. 7, visiting poet Eli Goldblatt will present his work as part of the College's Poetry Series sponsored by Poets & Writers, Inc. The reading will be held at 8 p.m. in the Champlain Valley Hall Commons. Goldblatt is an associate professor and university writing director at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa. This event will also highlight a recent limited-edition artist book published by Diane Fine, professor of art, which illuminates Goldblatt's poem, "A Broth for Two Parents." Sue Lezon, assistant professor of art, provided the photographic illustrations for the piece.
- A faculty/staff emeriti reception will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Valcour Educational Conference Center. A reception for CSEA retirees will be held Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 4 to 6 p.m., also at Valcour.

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The 2006-2007 Academic Year Opens with Several New Initiatives

President John Ettling officially kicked off the fall 2006 semester with an open meeting on Friday, Aug. 25.

During the annual event, Dr. Richard Schnell '70 was recognized for his promotion to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of Counseling.

Dr. Nancy Church, distinguished service professor and chair of marketing and entrepreneurship, and Dr. David Franzi, distinguished teaching professor of earth and environmental science, were recognized as recipients of the Research Scholarship Award from the SUNY Research Foundation.

Ettling announced two strategic initiatives approved for this year, the first of which will help step up efforts to recruit from a more diverse applicant pool. A full-time affirmative-action officer will be

hired to undertake this effort.

Dr. Lynda Ames, who previously served as a part-time affirmative-action officer and served as writer of the proposal, will return to her position as professor in sociology following the appointment of the full-time administrator.

The second initiative approved will enhance the Plattsburgh Alumni Career Exploration (PACE) Network and expand activities to facilitate the transition from campus to career by utilizing the talents, expertise and resources of alumni. A full-time coordinator will be hired to implement the initiative.

Carolyn Delcore, director of the Career Development Center, and Rose Anderson '95, director of alumni affairs, developed the plan. Both projects will share \$105,000 budgeted for strategic-initiative funding. □

Plattsburgh Stand Out Faculty



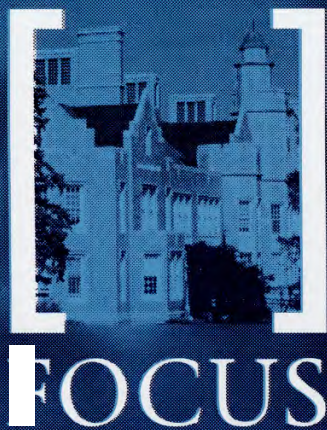
Five members of the faculty and staff were recognized for excellence during the Aug. 25 welcome meeting, receiving SUNY Chancellor's Award medallions and certificates.

Dr. Deborah Altamirano, associate professor of anthropology, Dr. Anna Battigelli, professor of English, and Dr. Faten Moussa, professor of management and international business, were cited for excellence in teaching.

Dr. Gary Brannigan, professor of psychology, was recognized for excellence in scholarship and creative activity.

Bryan Hartman '88, director of residence life, was honored for excellence in professional service.

"On behalf of your colleagues, I want to express our appreciation for your dedicated service and many contributions to the College, our students and the community," said Ettling. □



Students Rate Her Top of the Class

Suki Gras was awarded the 2005-06 Teaching Excellence Award for



Adjunct Faculty by Dr. Robert Golden, provost and vice president

of academic affairs, during the opening meeting on Friday, Aug. 25.

Gras has taught economics courses at SUNY Plattsburgh since 2001. Golden said that students who have completed the Course Opinion Surveys rate her among the top faculty members because of her responsiveness to and respect for students and for her understanding of and enthusiasm for the subject.

"Students virtually agreed that her courses increased their knowledge of and interests in economics," said Golden. "Many even rated her as the best professor they have ever had."

Golden said that it was because of students' praise for her along with many positive comments from her fellow faculty that she was honored with this award. ■

Faculty Members Receive Promotions to Associate and Full Professor

Two faculty members at SUNY Plattsburgh have received promotions to full professor, and seven others have received promotions to associate professor. These promotions were effective Sept. 1.

Receiving promotions to professor are: Dr.

Michael Morgan (l), communication disorders and sciences, and Dr. William Tooke (r), psychology.

"I'd like to congratulate Drs.

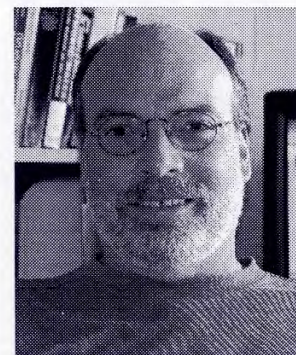
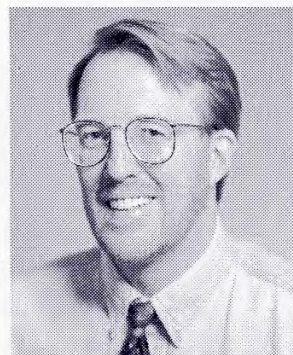
Morgan and Tooke on their promotions to full professor," said President John Ettling. "Through their teaching, service and research, they have made invaluable contributions to the campus community, and indeed their reputations in their respective fields are international in scope."

Morgan is also the associate dean of education, health and human services as well as chairperson of childhood education. He joined the SUNY Plattsburgh faculty as an assistant professor in 1992. He was promoted to associate professor in 1998.

As a member of the communication disorders and sciences faculty, Morgan specializes in the areas of fluency, cleft palate and counseling. He teaches courses on voice disorders and stuttering and runs the voice/speech science lab.

He has written numerous publications for professional, refereed journals and has presented papers at professional conferences across the United States. His current research projects focus on vocal fold function.

Morgan received his undergraduate degree in 1983 from Phillips University in Enid, Okla. He completed his master's in 1985 and received his doctorate in 1992 from Wichita State University in Kansas. He also



received a certificate of clinical competence in 1986 from the American Speech and Hearing Association.

Tooke joined the SUNY Plattsburgh faculty in 1987 as an assistant professor. He became an associate professor in 1994.

His research interest focuses on the relatively new field of evolutionary psychology. The goal of research in evolutionary psychology is to discover and understand the design of the human mind.

His research has been featured in several popular media outlets including the Donahue Show and *Reader's Digest*. He has written numerous journal articles and has been published in *Monitor*, the monthly magazine of the American Psychological Association.

Tooke has taught courses in undergraduate and graduate statistics, history and systems of psychology.

He received a bachelor's in history in 1976 from Montana State University and his doctorate in 1987 from University of Texas at Arlington.

Those receiving promotions to associate professor include: Dr. Anne Bongiorno, nursing and nutrition; Dr. Joann Gleeson-Kreig, nursing and nutrition; Daniel Gordon, music; Dr. Craig Hoag, chemistry; Dr. J. Stephen Mansfield, psychology; Dr. Dale Phillips, psychology; and Dr. Melinda Wu, earth and environmental science. □

Seeing is Believing — Fire Safety Awareness Day is Sept. 14

You are a student at Plattsburgh State. You wake up in the early morning to find your room, either in the residence halls or off-campus apartment, filled with smoke. What do you do?

The New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) hopes to answer that question at a Campus Fire Safety Awareness Day on Thursday, Sept. 14. (Rain date is Friday, Sept. 15.)

Many events are scheduled between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the courtyard between Macomb and Kent Halls. All members of the campus community are encouraged to attend. Members of the Plattsburgh community are also invited, including landlords of off-campus housing and local emergency responders.

Among the activities slated for the day is a live mock dorm room burn that will take place at 12:30 p.m. A mock dorm room will be built outside and set on fire so that individuals can see first hand the effects of fire.

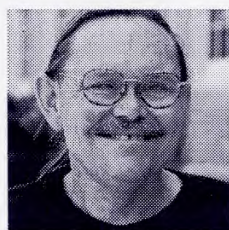
Other activities include a high rise rescue from Whiteface Hall, fire sprinkler and extinguisher demonstrations and a residence hall "survival corridor" in which individuals will have the opportunity to practice escaping from a hallway filled with theatrical smoke. Fire safety hand-outs will be available throughout the day at information tables and prizes will be raffled off.

"This is the premier kick-off event for the OFPC, which will hold five of these events at different colleges

throughout the state this fall," said Edward Bortnick, environmental health and safety officer at SUNY Plattsburgh. "Over the years, we've had several fires on campus. They caused damage – fortunately no injuries. There have also been several off-campus fires in the past few years. It is important that students remain vigilant about fire safety."

Several local and state dignitaries will be on hand throughout the day, including the New York Secretary of State Christopher L. Jacobs and Deputy Chief of the Fire Prevention Bureau within OFPC Paul D. Martin. For more information and to fill out a raffle ticket, stop by the Fire Safety Day Table in the Angell College Center beginning Monday, Sept. 11. ■

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. Thomas Morrissey, distinguished teaching professor and chair of English, is the winner of this year's Mary Kay Bray Award for his review of Pamela Sargent's "The Shore of Women in SFRA." The award is given by the Science Fiction Research Association (SFRA) for the best essay/review/article published in the *SFRA Review* for the previous year. The award was presented at the annual meeting in White Plains, N.Y., in June.



Dr. Margaret Morrow gave (by invitation) a Project NExT course at MathFest, in Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 10-12. The course was a two-day four-hour hands-on workshop, titled: "Teaching Geometry, an Active Learning Approach." Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) is a program of the Mathematical Association of America. It is a selective professional development program for new and recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences. The Exxonmobil Foundation is a major sponsor.



Dr. Richard Schnell '70, distinguished service professor of counselor education, has been re-appointed by the New York State Board of Regents to a five-year term on the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners. With Schnell's re-appointment, SUNY Plattsburgh will be represented at the highest level of clinical practice standards implementation in New York state.

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Parents and Families Get to See How Their Kids are Settling In

They may have only just waved goodbye to their college-bound sons and daughters three weeks before, but parents and families of SUNY Plattsburgh students can visit the campus and see how their kids are settling in during Family Weekend, Sept. 15-17.

Planned by an all-campus committee of faculty, staff and students, Family Weekend features many activities and events including planetarium shows, theater improv, breakfast with academic deans, introduction to sea kayaking, an alumni reunion, breakfast with College President John Ettling and more.

Family Weekend has long been a chance for family members to spend time with their students while getting to know SUNY Plattsburgh and other members of the College family, said Shawn McElwain '96 G'00, interim assistant director of student activities.

"It's a fun weekend for parents and students to come together on campus and for parents to see what their students are doing at SUNY Plattsburgh," McElwain said.

"Parents are welcome to attend all



the activities with their students. We're going to have two concerts, a comedian, a lakeside dinner at Valcour, and most everything is free (with the exception of dinner at Valcour and breakfast with the president)."

Holding Family Weekend so early in the semester gives students a chance to get adjusted to college life but not be so far into the semester so as to come up against mid-terms and North Country inclement weather, McElwain said.

For more information about Family Weekend, visit on the Web at: <http://www.plattsburgh.edu/studentlife/familyweekend/> □

>> NOTEBOOK

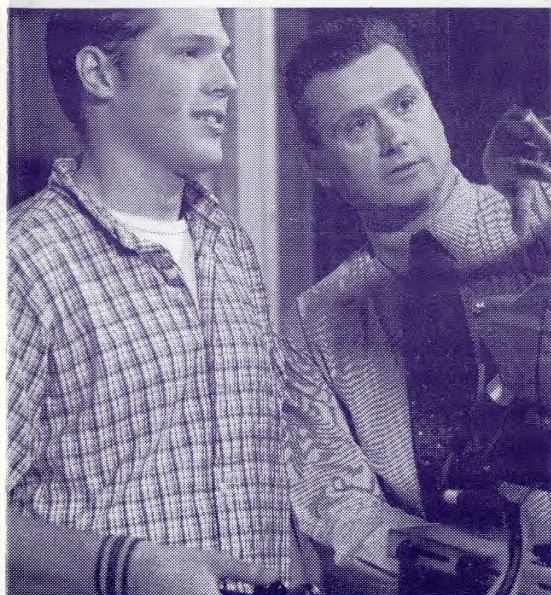
- The Earth and Environmental Science Club and the Environmental Action Committee will host two showings of the film "An Inconvenient Truth," a new documentary on global warming. The showings will be held on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 5 and 8 p.m. in E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall. There will be a student-led panel discussion after the first showing from 7 to 7:45 p.m. The showings and discussion are free and open to all.
- College Auxiliary Services is hosting a Cardinal Cash Fair on Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center. The fair will feature vendors from the community who take Cardinal Cash. Students, faculty and staff are welcome to stop by.
- On Tuesday, Sept. 19, the Center for Diversity, Pluralism & Inclusion will hold a Film Series & WRAP Session featuring the film "Crash" at 7 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall. This event is free and open to all.

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SEPTEMBER 22, 2006



"The establishment of the center will also respond to a national movement toward media convergence."

—Dr. Ron Davis

Merger of Communication; Journalism Departments Form New Center

The merger of the communication and journalism departments into a center will strengthen both programs for Plattsburgh students.

Peter Ensel '80, associate professor and chair of the communication department, and Dr. Ron Davis, professor and chair of journalism, will serve as co-directors of the Center for Communication and Journalism.

"The creation of the Center for Communication and Journalism, the only one in SUNY, gives SUNY Plattsburgh statewide visibility, as does the Center's annual Media Ethics and Law Conference (see story below) on hot issues in journalism and communication," said Davis. "The establishment of the center will also respond to a national movement toward media convergence."

For the past three years, faculty members from both departments have worked together to prepare for the kickoff of the center.

"Faculty in both departments unanimously agreed that the new center was well worth the endeavor," said Ensel.

The center will offer students a choice of four majors and seven concentrations. The majors are television and video production/broadcast journalism; audio radio production/digital media; public relations, advertising and organizational communication; and communication studies.

"For years we've known that we have a strong program, now we can have an identity that can expand throughout the region and beyond New York where we can attract and recruit high performing students interested in a career in the communication and journalism field," Ensel said. "The center will showcase our programs of quality and affordability that are meeting the changes within the field." □

"Tuning In" Conference Serves as Center Kick-Off Event

Studies have shown that fewer and fewer younger audiences are reading newspapers or tuning in to television news. This issue and others will be explored during a conference Friday, Sept. 29, hosted by the new Center for Communication and Journalism.

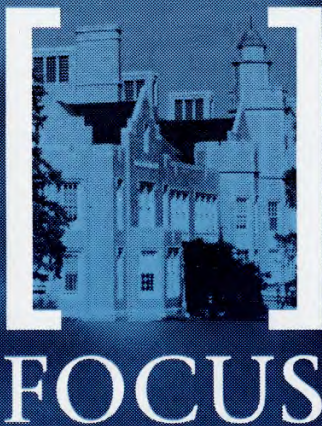
"Tuning In: Bringing Back Young Audiences to News," is part of the

Media Ethics and Law Series. The conference will be held 8 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center.

Speakers for the conference include: David Klatell, the vice dean and professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, David T. Z. Mindich,

associate professor and chair of the Journalism; and Mass Communication Department at Saint Michael's College; and Herman Wasserman, senior lecturer at the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa.

For registration information, call CAS at 564-3054. □



Peace and Social Justice Conference

The third annual Peace and Social Justice Conference, slated for Thursday, Sept. 28, will focus on "Instruments of Peace."

Geared toward education, health and human services educators, the conference will help those who prepare pre- and in-service teaching become more knowledgeable as they develop strategies to explore controversial topics that can lead to social justice for conflict resolution.

"We are pleased to bring to SUNY Plattsburgh some of the best research and scholars in education to represent their field of endeavor as we work toward a vision for the 21st century," said Dr. Marilyn Nelson, associate professor of childhood education and conference coordinator.

The conference will feature a keynote speech via audio tape by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and will also include presentations by faculty members.

Registration for the conference, which is free, begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Alumni Conference Room, Angell College Center. For more information, contact Dr. Marilyn Nelson at 518-564-5135. ■

Students Help Survey 468 Sites Along the Boquet River Watershed

Future changes in vegetation and hydrology in 40 wetlands in the Boquet River Watershed will not go unnoticed as a result of a two-year survey by faculty and students at SUNY Plattsburgh and staff of the Boquet River Association.

The project along the 280-square-mile Boquet River Watershed is funded by a \$152,149 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Meiyin Wu, associate professor of earth and environmental science, said the project would eventually develop a wetland-monitoring program and invasive-species management plan for the watershed.

The project will also produce field monitoring protocols, a vegetation identification guide, an invasive-plant species field guide and a volunteer training DVD.

"This project can serve as a model and resource for other wetland assessment and watershed groups in the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere and across the nation," said Wu. "The watershed project is an important step for the area with sparse population where comprehensive wetland data is needed and agencies have limited staff."

During the last two summers, students and staff set out five days a week, eight hours a day, for three months hiking around the Boquet River Watershed. With the combined efforts of Wu and students Jannel Gabriel, Andy McMillan, Marc Morgenstern, Michael Praeger, Lou Trotta and Sean Thomas, 468 sites in 40 wetlands were surveyed in 2005 and 2006.

"The students are the ones who deserve the credit; they worked so



hard under harsh field conditions" said Wu.

Praeger, a senior from Upper Jay, N.Y., has worked with Wu for the past three years. He said he appreciated the opportunities for hands-on research that Wu has provided her students.

"This was one of the best experiences I've had here at Plattsburgh State," said Praeger.

Morgenstern, a senior from Rochester, N.Y., thought it was great to be able to get his feet wet in the field in which he wants to pursue a career.

"We identified vegetation and found invasive species," Morgenstern said. "I enjoyed this experience very much."

The monitoring protocols were filmed by students from the Communication Department supervised by Christine Johnson, assistant professor of communication.

Jared Stanley and Marcel Longo filmed, edited and are in the process of creating the educational/instructional DVD.

Stanley, a junior from Peru, N.Y., wants to produce documentaries on the environment and hopes to one day work for National Geographic.

"This project was a great opportunity," said Stanley. "Dr. Wu is our client, and there is a lot of responsibility involved. The footage came out well, and I think the DVD will be a success." □ —Jennifer Newman

Ken Roberts '87; Theatre Professor, Actor Moves on to the Sharing Stage of His Career

SUNY Plattsburgh helped set the stage for Kenneth Roberts' life.

It was on stage in Hartman Theatre where Roberts, a 1987 graduate, met his wife. "She was a set tech, and I was the actor," he said.

It was during a campus visit with his family that the next decade would be decided. Roberts was asked to cover a class by one of his former professors. Roberts has been working as an adjunct lecturer of theater ever since.

"It has been an amazing experience. I didn't plan on teaching in Plattsburgh, but I fell in love with the atmosphere and the students," he said. With a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Roberts had worked as an actor on Off-Broadway,



in film, voice over and television with actors like Anthony Hopkins and Marissa Tomei.

As a 5-year-old, Roberts knew he wanted to be a professional actor. His father was an actor.

"Sometimes it's in your blood," Roberts said. This past summer, he had the lead in a local production of *Inherit the Wind* and has appeared in

ads for AuSable Chasm.

"I'm content with what I have done as a professional actor; I've now moved on to the sharing stage of my acting career," he said.

"When I first met Ken, he told me to take risks, make choices and do theater," said KeriAnne Murphy, from Cross River, N.Y. "Now I am a theater major. If it weren't for Ken, I probably wouldn't be a theater major. He gave me the push I was afraid to take."

Roberts said he feels his students are always creative and blossoming.

"Students have to understand acting is made to look easy – that's the hard part. I try to help them build a greater appreciation for acting," he said. ■

—Ceren Ozkal

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE

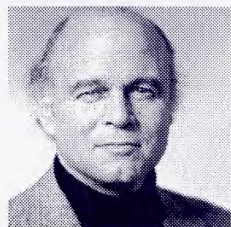


Dr. Patrick Coppens, professor of communication disorders and sciences, presented a poster session titled, "Crossed Aphasia and Singing Ability," at the national convention of the Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada last May.

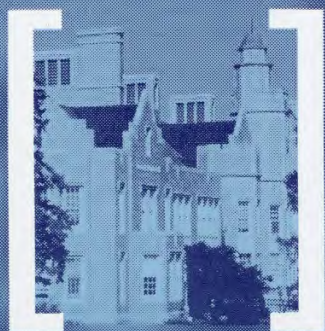
Dr. Suzanne Hungerford, associate professor in communication disorders and sciences, was also a presenter at the national convention. Her seminar was titled, "The Speech-Language Pathologist's Role in the Treatment of Selective Mutism and Other Psychogenic Disorders."



Dr. Alexis Levitin, professor of English, participated in a five-week National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar in Brazilian Urban Fiction at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. His project involved the translation of short stories by Dalton Trevisan, the provocative Brazilian writer and author of the *Vampire of Curitiba*. Levitin also spent a month in Portugal working with Portuguese poet Maria Andresen on translating Wallace Stevens' *Notes Toward a Supreme Fiction* into Portuguese.



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FOCUS

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Art Director: Paula Trahan '85
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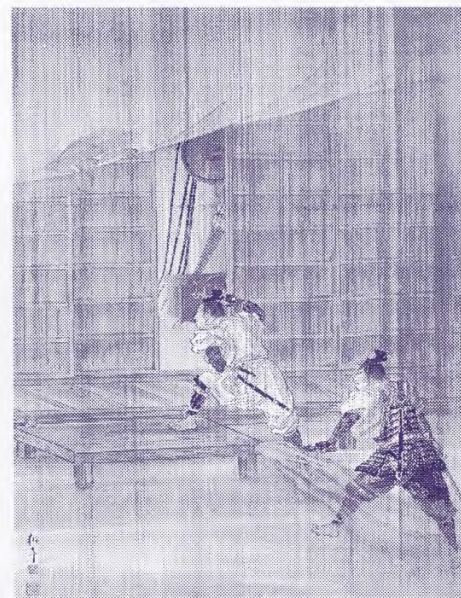
Japanese Paintings Exhibited at Plattsburgh State Art Museum

A collection of Japanese paintings, some as old as 400 years, will go on exhibit Sept. 23 in the Burke Gallery at the Plattsburgh State Art Museum.

Dr. Sewell Oertling, curator of the collection at the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, will give a lecture on the material and background at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23 in the Hartman Theatre, Myers Fine Arts Building. An opening reception follows in the Burke Gallery and Room 232 of Myers.

All of the works, from the late Edo period (1603-1868) through the Meiji Era (1868-1911), the Taisho (1911-1926) to the Early Showa Era (1926-1989), are part of the Pete and Marge Henricksen collection and were gathered in Japan in the late 1960s and '70s. This collection is on loan from Cornell University.

Although not a comprehensive review of all of the aspects of these changing years of Japanese art, it does show a variety of some of the work produced. The collection also exhibits some broad similarities to other world art at this time. Japanese art had a strong influence on late 19th- and early 20th-century mod-



ernist painting and illustration in the West. Forty-four artists are included as authors of these works. Some recognized masters, others virtually unknown. Themes include calligraphy and landscape in various styles of different eras, references to Chinese literary traditions, religious beliefs and legends, and growing interest in the life of fashion, court, and peasant and military activities.

The exhibition runs through Nov. 5. □

>> NOTEBOOK

- Paula Winokur, ceramic artist, will be the second presenter in this fall's Visual Artist Series. She will give a slide show presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cardinal Lounge, Angell College Center.
- The Center for Student Health and Psychological Services will host free, anonymous depression screenings and a presentation on Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Center in Room 148. For more information, call 564-3086. The Center also offers online screening for alcohol, depression, bi-polar disorder, generalized anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. To access, go to: www.mentalhealthscreening.org/screening/login.asp?keyword. Type in "cardinals" as the keyword.
- A celebration of the life of the late Dr. Mary L. Roark, professor emerita of counselor education who died May 30, will be held Saturday, Oct. 7 at 3 p.m. in the Alumni Conference Room, Angell College Center. Dr. Roark received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1997.

FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



OCTOBER 6, 2006

Plattsburgh State Rolls Out New Supply Chain Management Major

In a world that has been shrunk by the Internet and efficiency of mass-production on a mega scale, keeping the link in goods and services connected is at the heart of supply chain management.

Manufacturing is not as big a deal as it was when Henry Ford revolutionized American industry with assembly-line proficiency.

"A lot of the manufacturing of goods is being done in developing countries like China, India, Malaysia," said Dr. Colin Read, dean of the School of Business and Economics. "There is a more global implication. Getting all these links connected is the whole idea behind supply chain management."

Whereas 10 years ago information technology was all the rage, supply chain management is the new buzzword in business, Read said.

To that end, the School of Business and Economics will roll out

a new major in supply chain management in fall 2007. The program, which just received final approval from the State Education Department, will celebrate what makes Plattsburgh the community and SUNY Plattsburgh the college unique, said Read.

"We think this program will help us take a very good business school and make it a distinct business school," he said. "Only 10 percent of those business schools with AACSB (International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accreditation have supply chain management. We think Plattsburgh is unique, with the lake, rail, its proximity to the border and the eastern seaboard. With that, we can offer something distinctive and put our resources behind it. We will be able to give our students a leg up in this up-and-coming discipline." □

"We think this program will help us take a very good business school and make it a distinct business school."

—Dr. Colin Read

Supply Chain Management Anchored by New Faculty

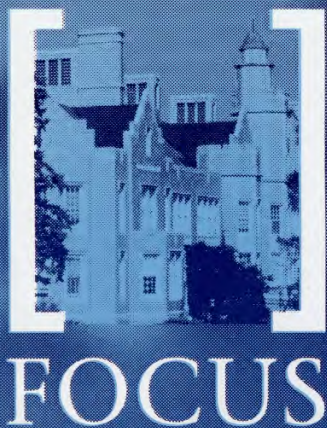


The new supply chain management program will be piloted by two new associate professors who bring a wealth of experience to the School of Business and Economics.

Dr. Brian Neureuther (left) is originally from Plattsburgh and returned to his hometown to teach courses in supply chain management and help administer the program as

well. He earned his doctorate from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

Dr. Kwangseek Choe (above left) earned his doctorate in management from Kent State University in Ohio. He held positions at Keene State College in New Hampshire and the University of Alaska Fairbanks before joining the team at SUNY Plattsburgh. □



Campus Update Provides a Forum for Vice President's Introduction

"From my end of Hawkins Hall, things are going pretty well here."

That was the overriding message from President John Ettling during the recent Fall Planning Day.

The meeting gave the president an opportunity to formally introduce the new vice president for institutional advancement, Anne Hansen, to members of the campus community.

Hansen began her tenure as vice president on Sept. 5 and has hit the campus running. During the planning day meeting, Hansen gave a synopsis of the capital campaign so far and where it is headed.

"A comprehensive campaign such as *Bright with Promise* involves a lot more than just raising dollars," said Hansen. "It raises the profile of an institution as a whole."

Hansen outlined the next three steps for the campaign. The first step is to clarify the campaign's funding priorities. These priorities are endowment, campus facilities and the Plattsburgh Fund.

"Priorities refer to categories or types of gifts," said Hansen. "These priorities should not be confused with the programs that will benefit from charitable support."

Hansen also said that since the campaign is currently in its "silent" or "nucleus" phase, efforts will be redirected from events and volunteer recruitment to building the nucleus fund.

"The public phase will begin when we have secured at least 60 percent of funds, have a broad base of participation and have a lot of positive news to report about the College, such as continued success in student recruitment, academic affairs and student life programming."

The third step is to reconnect with the more than 100 volunteers who have been recruited for the campaign.



In conclusion, Hansen reported that the foundation has received gifts and pledges totaling \$4.1 million, which is about 27.5 percent of the \$15 million campaign goal.

Dr. Robert Golden, vice president of academic affairs and provost, gave a strategic planning update and talked about the academic plan.

"Many program initiatives have been made that will keep Plattsburgh competitive within SUNY. The departments and the faculty have really risen to the challenge," said Golden. "In the last two years, an enormous amount of work has been done on curriculum revisions, including the creation of new programs."

John Homburger '75, vice president of business affairs, concluded the meeting with a presentation on the budget.

"This is the best year financially in over a decade. We are acting in unison, coming together and decisions are being made across campus," said Homburger, who also talked about building the reserve fund as well as the budget process as it relates to the strategic planning process. □

Cardinal Callers

Alumni and parents are called by current SUNY Plattsburgh students asking for support through the Plattsburgh College Foundation's phonathon campaign.

These are the Cardinal Callers, and the funds they raise support hundreds of scholarships and student activities on campus.

"Student callers are in direct contact with alumni and parents to ask them for their support for scholarships, library materials, computer lab upgrades, lab and classroom equipment and on-going improvements on our campus," said Naromie Ganesh '99, assistant director of annual giving. "They also share good news from the College."

Ganesh said that the Cardinal Callers are doing an exceptional job already in this early part of the semester.

"We got an early start this year. As of Sept. 28, we have collected almost \$45,000. In a matter of 10 days, we actualized 36 percent of our pledges."

Last year, phonathon raised more than \$193,000 in gifts from alumni and parents. □

Juggling Classes, Work has Advantages for Full-Time Student

On any given Friday night, most college students are preparing for an evening out. This is not the case for one Plattsburgh State student.

Most Friday nights you can find Eric Taft in the isles at the Plattsburgh Hannaford, making sure that the shelves are fully stocked.

Taft isn't just a grocery associate; he is the assistant evening manager. That means when all of the managers leave for the day, Taft is in complete charge of the store. He is responsible for overseeing all other departments, associates, customers and mechanical issues.

When asked why a full-time college student would take on such a position, Taft replied, "I like the challenge. I like the craziness of being in charge."



Taft, a criminal justice major from Morrisonville, N.Y., is happy with his decision to come to Plattsburgh State.

"It's a good school, affordable and convenient," said Taft.

One of the most difficult aspects about working and going to school full time is that it doesn't leave much time for himself.

"I never have a full day off," he said.

Nevertheless, going to school and working has its advantages. According to Taft, it teaches an individual how to be organized and responsible.

"I always have to have a plan," said Taft. "It also teaches you to have patience, people skills and time-management skills."

The next challenge in Taft's life is rapidly approaching. In May 2007, he will graduate from SUNY Plattsburgh.

Following graduation, Taft will explore career opportunities with the U. S. Border Patrol. He feels that he has acquired the necessary skills for this challenging job.

"It's time for a new challenge," said Taft, who hopes to be stationed in the Southwest, preferably Arizona. ■

— Jennifer Newman

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. Robert Karp, director of Institutional Research, was reappointed as a reviewer for the Empire State Advantage (ESA). ESA is designed to assist business, education, government, healthcare and not-for-profit organizations maximize their potential through a framework of excellence that employs a best practice approach. Previously, Karp served as a reviewer for a similar organization in Illinois, The Lincoln Foundation for Business Excellence.

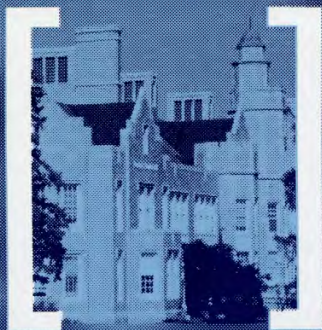


Dr. Kathleen Lavoie, dean of arts and science, is the co-author of "Preserving the unseen as you clean," published in *Cave Conservation and Restoration* by the National Speleological Society.



Dr. Faten Moussa, professor of management and international business in the School of Business and Economics, presented the paper, "Why does money lead to dysfunctional behavior," and also worked as the facilitator for an interactive paper session, "Financial Incentives as Motivators," at the Academy of Management National Annual Conference in Atlanta, Ga.

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FOCUS

Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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Alumni Come Home Oct. 20-22

The campus community will be "rocking around the clock" when alumni come back to celebrate Homecoming 2006, Friday – Sunday, Oct. 20 – 22.

"Homecoming is a special time," said Rose Anderson '95, director of Alumni Affairs. "Our alumni love reminiscing about their college days, and we love listening to their stories. It really brings out the 'Plattsburgh Spirit' in all of us."

This year's Homecoming, celebrating the theme "Rock Around the Clock," will give alumni a chance to remember the past as they journey through what SUNY Plattsburgh is today.

Here's a very short sampling of the many events planned for this year:

On Friday, Oct. 20, the PRISM Concert, featuring performances by student ensembles and singing groups, starts at 8 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Following the concert, the fireworks show will light up the fall sky above the field behind Memorial Hall at 9 p.m.

At 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, a special tree planting ceremony will



be held in front of Myers Fine Arts Building in remembrance of Dr. Edgar Barton, distinguished professor emeritus of art.

The dedication of the Cheryl M. Hogle ('68) Courtyard, located outside of Algonquin Dining Hall, will be held at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 22.

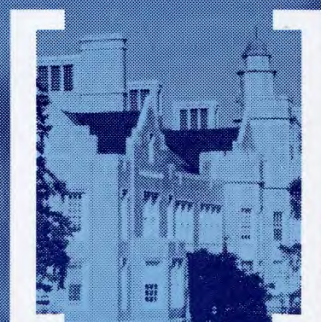
"Alumni really appreciate meeting today's students, faculty and staff. This is truly a campus-wide, indeed a community-wide, celebration. We encourage everyone to come and have fun with our alums throughout the weekend," said Anderson.

For a complete Homecoming 2006 schedule, go to <http://www.plattsburgh.edu/alumni/homecoming> □

>> NOTEBOOK

- Black Poetry Day will feature a reading by poet Marilyn Nelson on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 8 p.m. in the Hyman and Frances Krinovitz Recital Hall, Hawkins Hall. Nelson is the author of *A Wreath for Emmett Till*, a collection of poems that won the Coretta Scott King Award and the American Library Association's Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature.
- The Center for Student Health and Psychological Services announces its schedule for fall groups. General Psychotherapy Group, Tuesdays, 3 to 4 p.m., Kathryn Haendiges, Psy.D., facilitator; Healthy Lifestyles, Fridays, 3 to 4 p.m., Carol Shuttleworth, Ph.D., facilitator, Amanda Haley, co-facilitator; Balancing Bipolar, Mondays, 1 to 2 p.m., Christy Minck, M.A., LMHC, facilitator, Krinstina Moquin, co-facilitator; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Support Group, time and day to be announced, Kathryn Haendiges, Psy.D., facilitator; Body Image Support Group, Wednesdays, 3 to 4 p.m., Amber Bach-Gorman, M.S., NCC, LMHC, facilitator. To register for a group, please call the Center at 564-3086.

FOCUS



20, 2006



Enrollment Increase Seen as Reversal of Recent Decline; Strategic Goals Reached

The numbers are in for the fall semester headcount. SUNY Plattsburgh has enrolled a total of 6,217 students, which is up 2.8 percent over last fall's headcount and 5.2 percent ahead of 2004's total students.

The number of enrolled first-year students this fall is 1,111.

"This is a very strong class of first-year students," said President John Ettling. "In two years, with the hard work of hundreds of people, we have reversed a decline in the number of students and reached our strategic goals. At the same time, the academic quality and diversity of our incoming students has also improved."

More than 56 percent of the incoming freshman class is female and nearly 11 percent are from out of state. About 15 percent are Black, Hispanic, Asian or Native American. Nearly 90 percent of the first-year students are New York state residents with 54 out of 62 counties represented.

Incoming first-year students have selected more than 50 different majors. The top majors include education, business, communications, nursing, psychology, criminal justice and biology. The largest group of first-year students has not yet declared a major.

About six percent of first-year students have come to Plattsburgh from a different country. The top five countries are Canada, Nepal, China, Japan and Tanzania.

Plattsburgh is not alone in growing enrollments. The State University system's total enrollment has increased by more than 15 percent since fall 1996, from 368,459 to more than 424,000 this year.

"Nine consecutive years of enrollment growth demonstrate the high quality and value of an education at the State University of New York," said SUNY Board Chairman Thomas F. Egan. □

Albany Alumnus Films Recruitment Commercials

Marketing efforts for next fall have already gone into full swing with three new commercials that have hit the airways from the North Country to as far south as Westchester County.

These commercials, using current SUNY Plattsburgh students, were created by the Albany-based Media

Logic marketing consultants under the direction of Mark Mastrean '84, director of marketing and publications at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Marty Bohunicky '83, president of Working Pictures, a production company in Albany, directed the new commercials. Bohunicky was happy to return to campus to help create the

new set of ads that are aimed at attracting students.

"I'm familiar with the mission," Bohunicky said. "We want to capture that in the overall concept of the ad. (Media Logic is) the architect; I'm the carpenter. (I help) make it happen." □



FOCUS

Faculty, Staff Connect with Freshmen

The First Year Advocates program isn't just for first-year students; faculty and staff who advocate for those students get a lot out of the program as well.

Shawn McElwain '96 G'00, interim assistant director of student activities, is one of 12 faculty and staff members who decided to devote time and provide support to the College's newest faces.

"I signed up to be a first-year advocate because I thought it would be a fun way to connect with the first-year students," McElwain said. "My hope is that they will see me as another resource for their academic and personal success here at SUNY Plattsburgh."

Dr. Michele Carpentier '77 G'87 CAS'87, director of Student Support Services, has a more challenging job as advocate.

"I am a first-year advocate for commuter students," she said. "I was particularly attracted to commuting students because I was a commuting student myself and know how important it is to find a way to be connected to the college." □

First-Year Advocate Program a Lifeline Connecting Freshmen, Collegiate Experience

First-year students in SUNY Plattsburgh residence halls are no longer left to sink or swim.

The First-Year Advocate program is their lifeline to the collegiate experience. According to Peter Luguri '73 G'79, assistant vice president of Student Affairs and director of the program, the Advocates program springs from the first-year housing program that was first initiated in Whiteface Hall (WISE). The building was transformed into a freshman-only residence, and resident assistants, faculty and upper-class mentors were assigned to each floor to help first-year students with the transition from high school to college.

"We saw such a dramatically positive impact that we expanded it to Wilson Hall the next year," Luguri said. "Retention rates have increased, and students have done well academically and socially. We had an outstanding start to our first-year housing initiative with retention rates up nine percent that we created the First-Year Advocates program for those freshmen who don't live in Wilson or Whiteface."

In addition to faculty and professional mentors being assigned to residence halls to provide support and encouragement to first-year students, the college has refrained from housing freshmen in Macdonough and Harrington halls, the two furthest away from dining halls, classes and the Angell College Center.

"We have a roster of faculty and staff who are willing to devote their time and support to the College's first-year students," Luguri said. "They were there on moving-in day to offer assistance and there again on Sunday evening for the first floor meetings. They are available to students at any time if students have problems or concerns."



Faculty and staff advocates spend time in the halls and have a small budget to sponsor pizza parties or other activities to help first-year students with their transition.

"The advocates give out their business cards, email the students, leave voice mails and alert them to when important activities on campus are coming up, such as academic advising," Luguri said. "They want the first-year students in their care to know they are available to help them cope with whatever situation arises."

The program also reaches out to the nearly 100 first-year students who live at home in the area and commute to school.

"We don't want them to lose out on the SUNY Plattsburgh experience," Luguri said. "For those students outside Wilson and Whiteface, they are also able to use the academic centers in those residence halls and can take part in the Friday night programming for all first-year students."

The overall goal of First-Year Advocates and First-Year Experience is to improve the quality of undergraduate life, Luguri said.

"The rest – like improved retention rates – is a by-product. We have all sorts of quantitative and qualitative assessment tools to judge the quality of the experience. First-year students are most at risk of not continuing. We want to lessen that risk." □

Iraqi Experience Nets Class of 2002 Photojournalist Powerful Images for Feinberg Library Exhibit

The war in Iraq and Hurricane Katrina, two of the most significant events in recent history, were the subjects of powerful photos taken by photojournalist Josh Williams, a 2002 SUNY Plattsburgh graduate. A collection of these photos will be on display in the Feinberg Library from Friday, Oct. 20, through Jan. 7, 2007.

Williams, a journalism major and photography minor, currently works as a freelance photographer in New York City. His latest assignment has taken him to South America, first to Venezuela to cover the president, Hugo Chavez, then on to Brazil to track down the pilot who recently crashed his charter plane into a commercial airliner that killed 155 people.

Since graduation, his photos have

appeared in magazines and newspapers throughout the world. He served as an embedded journalist in Iraq and is currently under freelance contact with the *New York Post*.

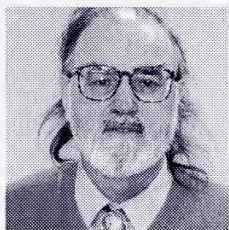
"My embed experience in Iraq without a doubt has been my greatest work as a journalist and a photographer," said Williams. "To be able to produce stories and photograph events in the environment of combat took more focus and dedication than I ever fathomed. Walking the streets of Baghdad on Iraqi Election Day still gives me goose bumps when I think about it. I interviewed the mayor of Baghdad while I was there – his security had AK-47s pointed in my face the whole time."

Williams gained practical experi-

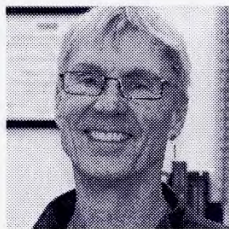
ence while at SUNY Plattsburgh by serving as photo editor *Cardinal Points*, a photo intern at the *Press-Republican*, a writing intern for the *Lake Champlain Weekly* and a photo intern at *El Mercurio* in Chile.

"At Plattsburgh, we would work through the night on *Cardinal Points* and go straight to class without sleep so we could make the deadline. It was that mentality that guided me through Iraq," said Williams. "The ability to multitask and work under high amounts of stress is a survival tool in the New York tabloid business. As a photojournalist, not many enter the job market with a degree or background in journalism – this sets me apart from others in an incredibly competitive market." ■

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. John Lewis, professor of physics, co-authored the paper, Influence of the self-buffer layer on ZnO film grown by atmospheric metal organic chemical vapor deposition, which appeared online at ScienceDirect.com. The article will also be published in the refereed journal, *Thin Solid Films*.



Dr. Edward Lusk, professor of accounting in the School of Business and Economics, is the co-author of *The Balanced Score Card: Suggestions for Rebalancing*, which appeared in *Problems and Perspectives in Management*.



Allison Swick-Duttine, director of fraternity and sorority life, and J.J. Reardon, a senior from Rhinebeck, N.Y., member of Alpha Chi Rho and interfraternity council vice president for recruitment, wrote the book review, *Good Guys: Eight Steps to Limitless Possibilities in Fraternity Recruitment*, which appeared in *Perspectives*, a publication of the Association of Fraternity Advisors.

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On The Road to a More Fulfilling Life

Dr. Kurtis Hagen has never stopped asking himself the tough questions in life. In his classes, he has brought those tough questions to SUNY Plattsburgh students.

"Philosophy isn't about answering the many questions we have of life, but rather understanding the complexity of our questions," said Hagen, who is an assistant professor of philosophy.

Hagen teaches Asian philosophy, philosophy of religion and moral problem and has been a faculty member at SUNY Plattsburgh since 2005. Before that, Hagen spent four years in Japan working on research for his book, *The Philosophy of Xunzi*.

Hagen encourages students to further evaluate how they feel about certain aspects of their life rather than accepting them for what they are.

In his moral problem class, students debate issues such as the death penalty, religion and gay marriage; issues that the students already hold opinions on but have never gotten the chance to think and talk about them openly and critically.



"Students just want to be right," said Hagen about the students' reactions in his class. "It's okay to have your opinion, but we can still talk about all sides of an issue."

Hagen received his doctorate from the University of Hawaii. Philosophy, however, was not his first passion. He also holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

As to the reasoning behind such a drastic career change, Hagen replied, "I wanted to have something more fulfilling in my life. I also had a minor in philosophy at the time and believed pursuing philosophy would take me on the road to a more fulfilling life." □

— Berechiah Adams

>> NOTEBOOK

- On Wednesday, Oct. 25, SUNY Plattsburgh will host its first Cardinal Graduation Expo from 12 to 8 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center. This is an opportunity for students planning to participate in Winter Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 16, to purchase their caps and gowns, rings and an assortment of other items. They will also meet with members of several offices on campus, including Financial Aid, Graduate Admissions, Career Services, Plattsburgh College Foundation and the Plattsburgh Alumni Association as they plan to leave SUNY Plattsburgh.
- Applications to participate in Alternative Winter Break 2007 are available in the Center for Service Learning and Volunteerism. Two open trips include: one week in Georgetown, S.C., volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and the second week in Hartford, Conn., working at the Salvation Army; the second trip is a week in Bridgeton, N.J., working with preschoolers at Head Start and the second week in Georgetown, S.C., with the Habitat for Humanity. Call 564-4830 with any questions.

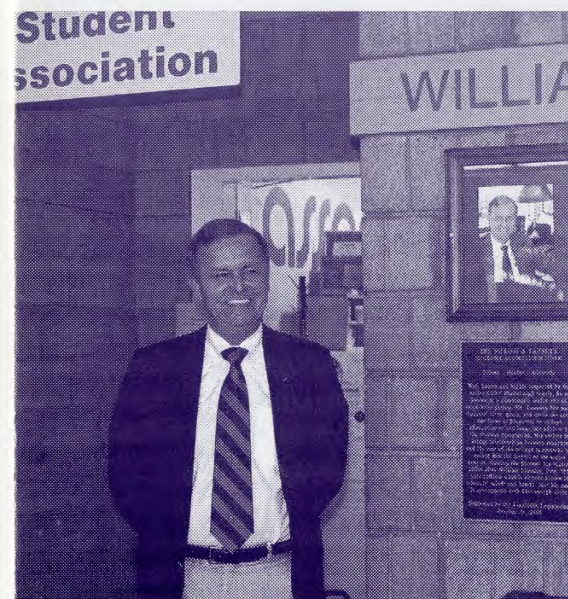
FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



NOVEMBER 3, 2006

Student
Association



Student Association Offices Named for William D. Laundry

The Student Association offices on the second floor of the Angell

College Center will now be known as the William D. Laundry Suite following an official dedication ceremony during Homecoming weekend.

"It was all pretty overwhelming," said Laundry, vice president for student affairs. "It is a profound honor and one that is accorded to few. I feel that I'm in pretty good company up on the second floor with Mr. Flynt (Commons), the Warrens (Ballrooms) and in Angell (College Center). Dr. Angell was president when I was first hired, and Mr. Flynt was the first vice president I worked for."

The idea to name the SA office after Laundry, an honorary alumnus (2005), was spearheaded by Michael Cashman '03, SA president. He requested the College Council to recommend the name change to the president. Final approval was given

by President John Ettling.

"It is befitting to honor such an individual," said Cashman. "He has worked with more than 900 elected SA officers and thousands of students during his years of service. He defines the best of the Plattsburgh spirit."

During the dedication, colleagues, students and alumni gathered in the college center. Special guests included Laundry's father, Kenneth R. Laundry, and Willard Flynt.

"My father was thrilled to be there," said Laundry. "He was very pleased and said, 'Your mother would be proud of you, and I am proud of you.' I would also like to extend a special thank you to Michael Cashman and to Bryan Hartman '88 (director of residence life). Without their persistence and advice, this would not have come to pass." □

*"It is befitting to honor
such an individual . . .
He defines the best of
the Plattsburgh spirit."*

—SA President Michael Cashman '03

Omicron Delta Kappa Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), the national leadership honor society, is celebrating its 25th anniversary on the SUNY Plattsburgh campus.

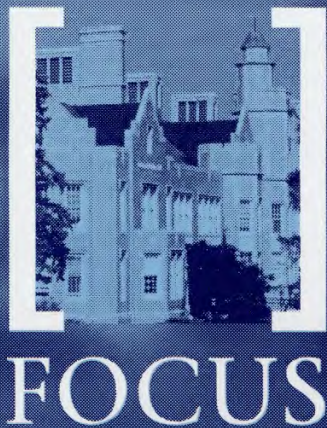
The honor society is recognizing its 25th year through a series of projects. During Homecoming, ODK hosted a distinguished-alumni panel and a luncheon for the fellowship

that also included an induction ceremony of Dr. Richard Schnell '70 G'72, distinguished service professor of counselor education. The society plans to induct a total of five distinguished individuals throughout the year, including SUNY Chancellor John R. Ryan.

ODK is also encouraging its members to donate children's books for the Baby

Brigade Project through the Center for Service Learning and Volunteerism.

The final celebratory project is the Burke Path located just outside of the Angell College Center where members can have their name and graduation year engraved on a brick for the path. □



A Memorial with Hats



As Dr. Rick Mikkelsen, distinguished teaching professor of art, was handing out birthday-style hats, he said that Dr. Edgar Barton would have appreciated the humor of alumni, colleagues and friends standing in the wind and cold outside of Myers Fine Arts Building wearing the brightly-colored headwear.

A tree-planting ceremony was held as part of Homecoming 2006 to remember Dr. Barton, professor emeritus of art, who passed away June 16. His companion, Harriet Jeweler, was in attendance, and Hap Wheeler '74 and Rod Driscoll played the mandolin and bouzouki during the ceremony.

A black walnut tree was planted outside of Myers in memory of Barton who taught at SUNY Plattsburgh from 1948 to 1985. ■

Faculty, Alumni Receive Awards During Homecoming Weekend 2006



The Plattsburgh Alumni Association presented awards to five special individuals during Homecoming Weekend 2006.

Dr. Douglas Skopp (right), distinguished teaching professor of history and college historian, was presented the Faculty/Staff Impact Award by Doug Sloan '91 (center), president of the Alumni Association, and Joseph DeSalvo '89 (left), member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, who nominated Skopp for the award.

Three distinguished alumni – C. Thomas "Chip" Cummings '56, John Longware '56 G'59 and Lisabeth Moore Kissner '93 G'03 – were presented with the Robert M. Garrow '52 G'58 Alumni Service Award during Homecoming Weekend.

Cummings received the award for his service and philanthropy to the College. For more than a quarter of a century, Cummings has diligently served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Alumni Association. He is also a member of the Plattsburgh College Foundation and the Cardinal Sports Hall of Fame.

Cummings was also inducted into the Charles C. Ward Society during the Homecoming Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 21. The society was established by the College Foundation to honor alumni and friends of the College who have during their lifetime given \$250,000 or more

to the Foundation in support of SUNY Plattsburgh. Cummings is the charter member of this prestigious society.

"Chip has been an outstanding supporter of SUNY Plattsburgh," said President John Ettling. "He is the first alumnus to be inducted into the Charles C. Ward Society, and it was most fitting that we thanked him in this way during Homecoming and the occasion of his 50th reunion."

Longware was honored for his loyal and distinguished service to his alma mater. A member of the Cardinal Sports Hall of Fame, Longware sat on the Alumni Association's Board of Directors for more than 30 years and served as a member of the College Council.

Lisabeth Moore Kissner was honored in recognition of the major impact she has had on students with her dedicated service. Kissner is an adjunct faculty member in physics and has provided innovative experiences both in the classroom and in the planetarium.

Josh Williams '02 received the Off to a Good Start Award in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments as a photojournalist already achieved during his young career. He is currently the chief photographer for the *New York Post* and travels throughout the world capturing images for millions of readers. □

Three Former Cardinal Athletes Inducted into Hall of Fame

Butler, Brock, D'Anjou Honored

The Cardinal Sports Hall of Fame grew to 61 members on Friday,

Oct. 20, with the induction of Gary Butler '64, T.J. Cornwright Brock '89 and Gaetan D'Anjou '82.

Butler was a three-year starter for the baseball team (1962 to 1964) and played soccer during the 1962 and '63 seasons. Named to the 1963 all-SUNYAC baseball team as a junior, Butler was also the team MVP and senior captain a year later.

"Gary was the mainstay of our pitching staff for three seasons," wrote Dr. Ernie Rangazas, former Plattsburgh State administrator and coach who passed away in January, in a letter to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee. "After his graduation, he was an effective member of the faculty

at Beekmantown Central School where he also became a successful baseball coach by leading the Eagles to over 300 wins during his tenure."

A retired teacher, Butler now works as a real estate agent and is a volunteer baseball assistant coach at Plattsburgh State.

Brock was a four-year basketball standout in the 1980s. A three-time all-SUNYAC performer, she holds the school single-game scoring record with 36 points as a freshman against Binghamton on Feb. 8, 1986.

Fellow Hall of Famer and Brock's former coach, Phoebe Sturm, said, "T.J. was an absolute pleasure to work with. She was mature even as a freshman and was eager to learn and lead. She was respected by her

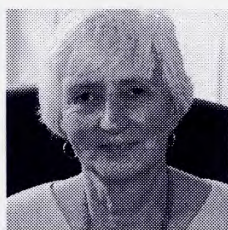
peers and never let them down."

D'Anjou was a standout on the men's hockey team from 1979-82, helping the squad to a 74-26-6 overall record during that span. He racked up 95 goals and 181 points – all school records.

"Gates' was known as an explosive skater with finesse-type skills as a centerman. He was one of our key players during my tenure," said Herb Hammond, former Plattsburgh hockey coach (1980-82).

A native of Noranda, Quebec, Canada, D'Anjou's collegiate trophy case includes two-time first-team all-SUNYAC, first-team ECAC West All-Star in 1981, two-time ECAC II West All-Star and 1981 MVP of NYCHA All-Star First Team. □

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE




Dr. Margaretha Wilcke, assistant professor of social work, wrote the article, "Reconstructing Identity: The Experience of Women Refugees from the Former Yugoslavia," which appeared in the *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*.



Dr. Richard L. Schnell '70 G'72, LMHC, distinguished service professor of counselor education, presented a paper, "The Commodification of Consciousness: Is the U.S. Treating Its Depressed Children with Antidepressants with Long-term Addictive and Iatrogenic Effects," at St. Anne's College, University of Oxford, Oxford, U.K. Several graduate students, including Angie Martin, Pam Lefebvre, London Piro, Jim Sheppard and Shara Tuchino, worked with Schnell in developing a means for monitoring child SSRI antidepressant medication use. The presentation made three recommendations to professional mental health clinicians and their associations and regulatory boards. **Dr. Steve Saiz**, LMHC, associate professor of counselor education, recent community counseling graduates Heather Hall, M.S., NCC, and Rheta Recore, M.S., NCC, and Schnell recently presented "Fundamentals of Motivation Interviewing" at the New York Mental Health Counselors Association Conference in Albany, N.Y. Schnell and counseling graduate, Wendy Lehman, M.S., NCC, also presented, "Zen Therapy: Meditation, Haiku and Nature," at the conference.



To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to news@plattsburgh.edu



FOCUS

Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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Editor: Frances Hagen Dumenci
Art Director: Paula Trahan '85
Assistant Editor: Gerianne Wright

Fall 2006 FOCUS Schedule

Nov. 3

Nov. 17

Dec. 8

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Institutional Advancement

Office of Public Relations
 113 Hawkins Hall
 564-2090 • 564-2094 (fax)
news@plattsburgh.edu

Courtyard Dedicated to Cheryl Hogle Alumna, Associate Dean Honored

She started her career at SUNY Plattsburgh in Whiteface Hall. It's only fitting that the courtyard next to Whiteface Hall, just outside the housing/residence life offices in Algonquin Dining Hall, is now named in her honor. Cheryl Hogle '68 G'74 stood proudly at the podium on the brisk Sunday morning during Homecoming as the courtyard was officially dedicated the "Cheryl M. Hogle Courtyard."

"It is such an appropriate spot," said William Laundry, vice president for student affairs. "Cheryl worked much of her career in residence life. The courtyard is right next door to Whiteface Hall where she began her career at the College in 1974. I know Cheryl was moved by the ceremony."

The dedication was well attended by friends and family, including brothers, sisters, aunts, nieces and nephews. Hogle retired from SUNY Plattsburgh in 2001 as associate dean of students and executive director of College Auxiliary Services and is now living in Florida.

"It was nice to have her family, friends, college officials and a host of admiring alumni there to pay tribute



to Cheryl and her years of service to SUNY Plattsburgh," said Laundry.

"Cheryl was a trailblazer," said Michael Cashman '03, president of the Student Association. "She was the first woman to be president of our Student Association and the first woman national president of Omicron Delta Kappa (the national leadership honor society). She set a precedent of an impressive level of leadership."

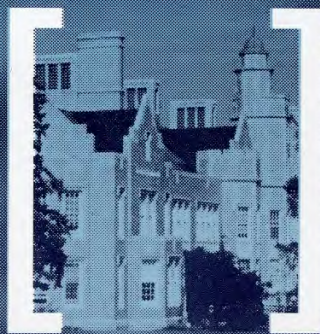
The plaque outside of Algonquin Dining Hall says in part: "She dedicated her professional life fully to students residing on the campus and to the staff who worked in the residence halls." □

>> NOTEBOOK

- The Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, in collaboration with the French American Cultural Exchange, presents The Tournées Festival, a week-long film festival Monday – Friday, Nov. 6 – 10. The films, which will be shown at 6 p.m. in Yokum 200, include: *La petite Jérusalem* (Little Jerusalem) by Karin Albou, Nov. 6; *La face cachée de la lune* (Far side of the moon) by Robert Lepage, Nov. 7; *L'enfant* (The Child) by Jean-Pierre et Luc Dardenne, Nov. 8; *Comme une image* (look at me) by Agnès Jaoui, Nov. 9; and *Le chignon d'Olga* (Olga's Chignon) by Jérôme Bonnell, Nov. 10. The showings are free and open to all. All films are in French with English subtitles.
- The Celebration of Scholarship reception will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the second floor lobby of the Feinberg Library. The celebration honors academic and professional members for their scholarly accomplishments. Books, articles and exhibition materials will be displayed. Refreshments will be served.

FOCUS

EDITED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



NOVEMBER 17, 2006

EOP, Student Support Services Head in New Direction

It was a union that made sense, bringing Student Support Services and the Educational Opportunity Program under one umbrella. What made even more sense is having Dr. Michele Carpentier '77 G'87 CAS'87 hold the umbrella.

Carpentier has been with Student Support Services (SSS) nearly 20 years and its director since 1990.

"It's exciting for me in so many ways," Carpentier said. "The position combines the administrative part of the two offices. Bob Harsh will run the day-to-day business at EOP. I'll oversee the administrative part – the record-keeping, financial and budgetary aspects."

The Educational Opportunity Program is designed for capable students from financially disadvantaged families. The program helps students get into college and provides support throughout a

student's college career. Student Support Services provides a wide variety of services for students who either come from financially disadvantaged families, whose parents never went to college or who have a disabling condition.

Carpentier was promoted to the position following the retirement this fall of Marlene Fields, the long-time director of EOP. In addition to SSS and EOP, Carpentier also oversees the Students at Risk and disability services programs. All are housed in the Angell College Center.

"I'm excited by the changes," Carpentier said. "After 20 years, it's nice to have a new challenge. I'm fortunate to have Bob over there with his years of experience. My learning curve is going to be pretty steep. It's a whole new program to learn about." □

"It's a whole new program to learn about."

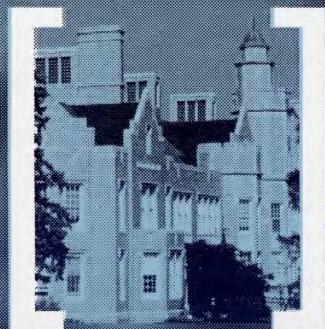
SEFA Campaign Underway on Campus

The State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA) Campaign had its 2006 kickoff with a breakfast hosted by President John Ettling.

A \$50,000 campus goal was unveiled at the Nov. 2 event, whose campaign theme is "Make Your Mark." The campaign runs through Dec. 1.

Co-chairs Marlyn Cotter from the accounting department, Cherise Granger from academic affairs, and Peter Luguri '73 G'79, assistant vice president of student affairs and director of the First-Year Experience, said they hope to improve on last year's record that saw 39 percent of campus employees contributing.

The SEFA campaign is administered by the United Way of Clinton and Essex Counties. Employees can elect to donate a lump sum payment in cash, by check or through payroll deduction. Gifts can be designated to specific agencies or they can be unrestricted. Contact one of the co-chairs for more information. □



FOCUS

Studying in Africa

Angel Acosta was raised in New York City on the lower east side of Manhattan. His study abroad trip to Africa allowed him to experience a new and unique environment.

"I stayed with several villagers with no electricity, no running water, no light. We camped out and for several days we helped them with economic projects, with theories to make their environment more resourceful, productive," he said.

Acosta also had an encounter with a blind chief in the southern part of Senegal, Africa.

"I met a wise man who was blind, and he knew about Bush's politics. He knew the 2000 election against Gore; he knew about Florida 2004."

Acosta went on to explain how he switched languages with the chief, talking in French, Spanish and English. He even said "hello" to the chief in Chinese, and surprisingly, the chief responded back.

"I'm in Africa in the middle of nowhere, 14 hours from the city, and this blind man just says 'hello' back in Mandarin Chinese. I was like, whoa, whoa."

Students Travel the World to Study in a Different Culture

Greer Saposnick, a nutrition major, is a student whose learning experience went beyond a typical classroom at SUNY Plattsburgh. She went to the University of Wollongong in New South Wales, Australia for a semester abroad last spring.

"I had a great time – it was a different culture, a different life. It was more than I expected it to be," she said. "It provided a great opportunity to get an experience that I might not be able to get when I am older. To live in a different country for four months, not many people can do that now."

The Study Abroad and Exchanges Program offers more than 400 programs in 60 countries for students who want to live and study in another country, ranging from a few weeks to a full academic year.

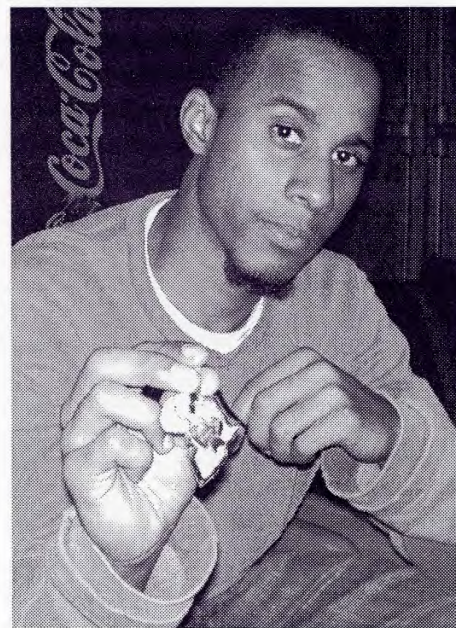
According to Dr. Bryan Higgins, director of International Education at the Global Education Office, studying abroad allows students to learn more about the world and provide a more deeper insight into their own lives.

"It can provide crucial changes on the students' view of life," Higgins said. "Some may even change their majors because of what they learned about themselves during the experience."

"I was very independent, and I could handle any situation — knowing that was amazing," Saposnick said. "It was an amazing experience taking in everything."

In the past two years, according to the Global Education Office, SUNY Plattsburgh has experienced a 48-percent increase of students who have participated in study abroad programs. The most popular destinations tend to be English-speaking countries such as England.

There are opportunities for short-term trips as well. For example,



this past June three students and two faculty members participated in a Turkish Language and Culture Program at Sakarya University in Turkey.

Angel Acosta (above), an anthropology, French and Spanish major, has traveled to Senegal, Africa and Monterey, Mexico to study abroad. In Africa, he studied French and lived with traditional families and villagers for five weeks. He then studied Spanish at the University of Monterey. He also visited in Cuba for a week while in Mexico.

"It was an amazing experience to be living for a week in the communist country while Castro was in good health," he said.

The Study Abroad program can serve as a teaching tool. According to Acosta, he has learned from his experiences including having a more open mind.

"People are people wherever you go. Although they have different cultural values and customs, they are people with cultures. There is more out there than Plattsburgh and New York City." □

— Christena Rulli

Popular Culture, Marge Simpson, Hot Topics with Assistant Professor Jessamyn Neuhaus

Dr. Jessamyn Neuhaus loves what she does for a living. She is in her third year as an assistant professor of U.S. history and popular culture.

"I just might be the only professor in Plattsburgh whose office décor features a two-foot high inflatable Marge Simpson."

The inflatable in her office is a reminder of the paper she completed featuring Marge Simpson that will be published in the forthcoming *The Journal of Popular Culture*.

Neuhaus received her bachelor's in religious studies from the College of Wooster in Ohio. She received her master's from the Claremont Graduate University in 1997 and her doctorate in 2001.

Although Neuhaus has taught at

other colleges, including New College of California in San Francisco, Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore., and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, she knew she wanted to teach at a public institution and considers herself lucky to have landed at SUNY Plattsburgh.

"The members of the history department are, without exception, supportive, collegial and remarkably dedicated teacher-scholars," said Neuhaus. "I also continue to be impressed by our students. Most of them are quite serious about their education and are striving to improve their academic skills and, indeed, their lives. It is a privilege to be able to assist them in their efforts

and to help them succeed."

This past summer, Neuhaus completed a fellowship with the Advertising Educational Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for the exchange of ideas between academics and the advertising industry. She spent two weeks in New York City where she was a visiting professor with Saatchi and Saatchi, a well-known and respected international advertising agency.

At SUNY Plattsburgh, Neuhaus teaches such courses as "Modern U.S. Popular Culture," "Youth Culture" and "Gender and Popular Culture." She is also teaching the honors seminar about food and society. □

— Ceren Ozkal

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. Marie Cusson, assistant professor of foreign languages and literature, published an article titled, "Rencontres urbaines et mouvances identitaires dans « Le Pont » de Michael Delisle et « Je n'ai pas porté plainte » de Robert Lalonde" in the interdisciplinary, bilingual journal, *Quebec Studies*. She also attended and spoke at the 15th Biennial Conference of American Council for Quebec Studies in Cambridge, Mass., in October.



Dr. Fernando Iturburu, associate professor of foreign languages and literature, published an article about Colonial female writer La Perla Mistica Gertrudis de San in *Diálogos Espirituales. Manuscritos femeninos hispanoamericanos*, edited by Asunción Lavrin and Rosalva Loreto (Puebla: U de las Américas/Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades de la Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de México de Puebla, 2006).



Dr. Jean Ouédraogo, associate professor and chair of foreign languages literature, published "Entretien avec Ben Diogaye Beye" in *The French Review*. The interview with the Senegalese filmmaker was conducted in Dakar (July 2005) and made possible through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant and a Presidential grant. His book, *Maryse Condé and Ahmadou Kourouma: Griots de l'indicible* (2004), was recently reviewed in *Présence Francophone*.



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Fall 2006 FOCUS Schedule

Dec. 8

Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule

Jan. 19

Feb. 2

Feb. 16

March 2

March 23

April 6

April 20

May 4

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[4] FOCUS

Cross Country Athletes Proudly Wear the Cardinal Red and White

For most athletes, the game takes place on a court, a rink, a field or a track. For the cross country athlete, home turf consists of a wooded trail and that monstrous hill, which seems impossible for most to walk up let alone run.

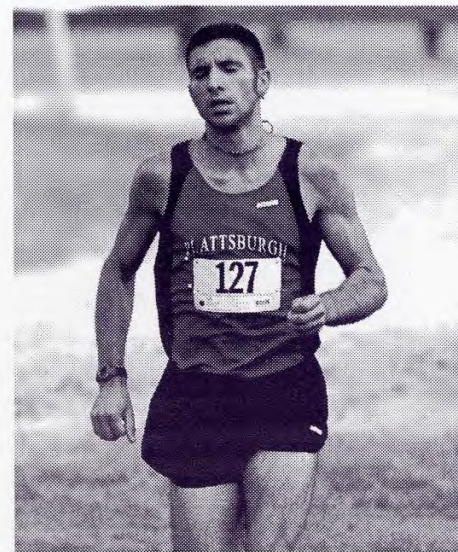
Cross country has been an intercollegiate sport at SUNY Plattsburgh since the 1970s, when Coach Howard Hammond was at the helm. John Lynch is the current head cross country coach and joined track and field coach Brett Willmott to head the running program in 2005.

Lynch has a few goals for the team – one is to produce national champion athletes; the other is for the men's and women's teams to be nationally ranked in the top five.

These athletes impressively represent the Cardinal red and white.

In the past year, the combined grade point average (GPA) of the cross country athletes was higher than the general student public. In spring 2006, cross country had a team GPA of 3.3.

A few student-athlete standouts



include Matt DeShane (above), a senior from Norwood, N.Y., who is a six-time All-American athlete and has four SUNYAC championships; Toni Wiszowaty, a junior from Shirley, N.Y., who was second in the women's 10k at the National Championship this past year, named an All-SUNYAC athlete and holds the outdoor school record in the 10k; and Bobby Asher, a senior from Scarsdale, N.Y., who is the SUNYAC 10k champion. □

— Jennifer Newman

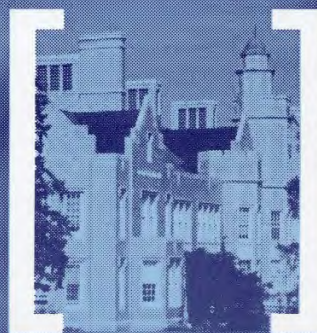
>> NOTEBOOK

- The Partners in Cross-Cultural Learning (PICL) Program, sponsored by the International Student Services Office, will hold a community partner orientation session on Saturday, Dec. 3, at 3 p.m. in the Newman Center. Each semester, international students are matched with community members and meet about once a month for informal activities such as family dinners. Applications for community PICL volunteers will be accepted through December for partnership matching in January 2007. For more information, contact Michelle St. Onge, PICL coordinator, at 564-3270 or via email at picl@plattsburgh.edu
- The Feinberg/Book Nook Reader's Series will host two upcoming events. On Monday, Nov. 27, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emerita Ann Tracy will read from and sign copies of her new biography of Helene Paquin Cantarella. On Tuesday, Nov. 28, Lecturer Dennis Aprill will read from his collection of outdoor books, which will be available for purchase and signing by Aprill. These events will be held in the College Store from 4 to 5 p.m. and the Feinberg Library from 7 to 9 p.m.

Events Calendar: <http://banweb.cc.plattsburgh.edu/pls/banprd/events.focus>

FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



*"Finishing school
is a nice breath"*

— RuthAnn Skowronek '06
Commencement Speaker

SUNY Plattsburgh Celebrates Winter Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 16

Winter Commencement is set for Saturday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. in the Field House and more than 400 SUNY Plattsburgh students are eligible to receive bachelor's and master's degrees and certificates of advanced study during the graduation exercises.

RuthAnn Skowronek, a senior individualized studies major from Readington, N.J., will be the student commencement speaker (see story below).

Dr. John Ettling will preside over the commencement ceremony. Diploma covers will be presented to each graduating senior by Donald Garrant '57 G'69, College Council chairperson, and Arnold Amell '53, member of the College Council.

Dr. Charles I. Zinser, professor of geography, will serve as the faculty marshal for the ceremony. Zinser joined the faculty as an instructor in 1966 and served as the first chair of

the geography department in 1973-74. Zinser will lead the processional of faculty and students into the ceremony, carrying the College mace.

The Adirondack Brass will provide the music, including "Pomp and Circumstance," and the Champlain District Pipe Band will play the bagpipes. The Cardinal Singers, under the direction of Jo Ellen Miano, associate professor and chair of music, will also perform during the ceremony.

A reception for seniors and their families will be held on Friday, Dec. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Flynt Commons, Angell College Center.

The reception, hosted by the Plattsburgh Alumni Association and Student Activities, will feature a toast by President Ettling.

Seniors and faculty members participating in Winter Commencement should be at the Field House no later than 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16. □

Student Speaker is Environmental Ambassador

"Finishing school is a nice breath." And, RuthAnn Skowronek will



finish her undergraduate career when she graduates on Saturday, Dec. 16.

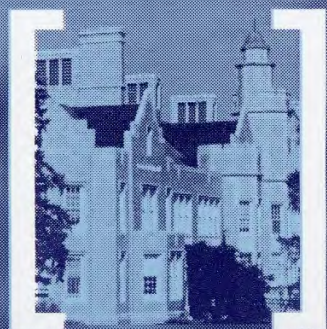
An individualized studies major in public art and envi-

ronmental activism from Readington, N.J., she will represent the Class of 2006 as its commencement speaker.

"Everyone's experience at college is different, but I will try to pull out some of the similarities," Skowronek said of her speech. "The biggest value of college is the development of people at that age in their lives when they grow

and expand their world view."

Skowronek, a Presidential Scholarship recipient, has been active on campus with several environmental projects, including the community garden and making Algonquin Dining Hall a green hub through her work on the Dining Advisory Committee. □



FOCUS

Sodexho Caters to Campus

Sodexho pulled out all the stops Nov. 16 when it hosted a food fair in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center to show the campus just what's cooking in catering.

Invited guests lunched on triple-decker cob and chicken Caesar wrap sandwiches, antipasto and chef salads, coconut shrimp, Parmesan artichoke hearts and Buffalo chicken wings. Cakes and cookies of all shapes and sizes called to diners as they made their way through several food stations set up around the room. Catering catalogs, distributed to visitors, explained what is available from catering services, including breakfasts, lunch buffets and dinners.

Although the brochure provided an overview of menus and suggestions, Sodexho stressed that was just a starting point. Its commitment "is to customize and create whatever is required to provide guests with an unforgettable experience."

For information on catering, contact the office in Clinton Dining Hall at 564-3085 or by email at catering@plattsburgh.edu □

Cavanaugh, Kim and Morrow Spend Semester as Ethics Fellows

This semester's fellows are spending their last few days at the Institute for Ethics in Public Life. Dr. Rodney Cavanaugh, professor of special education, Dr. Jin Kim, professor of communication, and Dr. Margaret Morrow, associate professor of mathematics, spent their semester delving into the ethical issues within their fields as well as in society.

Dr. Thomas Moran, founding director of the institute and SUNY distinguished service professor of education and psychology, said that during the semester, fellows do extensive reading and scholarly projects on ethics and how it relates to their discipline.

"The institute gives the fellows the opportunity to become much more sophisticated in these issues. They develop ways to incorporate ethics into their classes in a more complex and comprehensive way," said Moran.

Cavanaugh was investigating the ethical responsibilities of schools to students who reside in states with compulsory education laws before he took a medical leave of absence earlier this semester.

"Teaching techniques, which enhance equitable opportunities for students to participate and receive feedback, require ethical decision making and the instructional skills to use the decision in practice," said Cavanaugh.

Kim studied the subject of journalism and ethics.

"Given the crucial roles that the character of information and its usage patterns play in shaping the models of civic participation, the emerging information environment will undeniably affect the vibrancy of America as a civil society," said Kim.

"When we teach in our own discipline for a long time, we're likely to be 'trapped' in professional curricula.



After I started this experience, I realized that there is another part of college life and that is citizenship education. I have tried to answer the question, 'How do I make a contribution in the knowledge of my own discipline to create a knowledgeable citizenry?'"

Kim said that he has enjoyed his time at the institute this semester.

"The experience has been a great source of satisfaction, gratification and fulfillment."

Morrow has also enjoyed her semester as a fellow. She has spent her time exploring ways to ensure the academic integrity of math courses with emphasis on achieving this by helping students see the relevance of the learning to their own lives as well as to some of the world's bigger issues.

"I am hoping to explore whether I can devise some extended mathematical modeling assignments that explore some of the big issues, including environmental concerns like global warming and conservation, perhaps equity issues and global disease problems," said Morrow. "The experience at the institute has opened my eyes to how one can incorporate these global issues into math classes." □

Chrissa Wright: Biology Student Wins Prestigious National Research Award

Senior Chrissa Wright, a biochemistry and biology double major from Bernhards Bay, N.Y., recently traveled to the National Association for Biology Teachers (NABT) annual conference in Albuquerque, N.M., to present her research on paramecium and the hemoglobin gene.

Her poster presentation, which was in competition with other college students from across the country, was awarded the NABT First Place Student Undergraduate Research Poster Award. She was also awarded data analyzing computer software and probes by Vernier, a biotech company, for the genetics lab at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Under the mentorship of Dr. Nancy Elwess, associate professor of

biological sciences, Wright has been researching paramecium and the hemoglobin gene for the last three semesters.

Elwess said that Wright excels in her work due to her drive for success and the opportunities provided by the College for undergraduate research.

"Chrissa is a very hard working individual; she has a lot of discipline and dedication to her research," said Elwess.

Wright said that she enjoys working with Elwess and is thankful for the research opportunities at SUNY Plattsburgh.

"Small class sizes and one-on-one connections with the professors put me ahead," said Wright, who transferred from SUNY Buffalo because she

felt that SUNY Plattsburgh provides more opportunities for undergraduate students.

"My work would not have been able to be completed if SUNY Plattsburgh didn't have equipment and opportunities that it has to offer to its students," she said.

Wright loves working on her research. She says that her projects have supplemented her regular class work and have allowed for more creative thinking. She hopes to finish her current research project before she graduates in May 2007 and write a research article for publication.

After graduation, Wright is planning on getting her doctorate degree in neuroscience with a focus in genetics. □ — Jennifer Newman

>> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



Dr. Monica Ciobanu, assistant professor of sociology and criminal justice, attended the opening plenary of the 1989 Research Network held in November at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. Her project on "Communist Regimes, Legitimacy, and Revolutions" is a comparative study of the political transformations that took place in 1989 in Eastern and Central Europe and employs Max Weber's historical and conceptual framework of legitimacy and authority. Her participation at this event also involved the coordination of the working group on "Soviet Domination, Il/legality and Il/legitimacy."



Cerise Oberman, dean of Library and Information Services and distinguished librarian, was one of 30 information professionals to be invited to participate in the Association of College & Research Libraries Summit on Technology & Change in Academic Libraries. Librarians from a cross-section of libraries joined with academic administrators and faculty, representatives from the private sector including Google, Blackboard and Elsevier, and representatives from educational associations including the Coalition of Networked Information and EDUCAUSE, to discuss the impact of technology on the academic library and its implications for the future.

To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to news@plattsburgh.edu



FOCUS

Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule

Jan. 19
 Feb. 2
 Feb. 16
 March 2
 March 23
 April 6
 April 20
 May 4

To submit a story idea for FOCUS, please email news@plattsburgh.edu. Information for inclusion in the "Notebook" section must be received two weeks prior to publication date. (See above fall schedule for dates.)

Institutional Advancement

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Art Exhibition by Peter Russom on Display Until Jan. 28

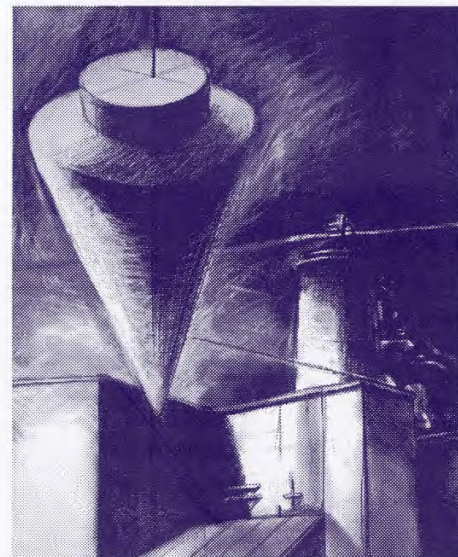
The exhibition, "Modern Translation," surveys the past 15 years of the art of Peter Russom, associate professor and chair of the Art Department.

Russom has been teaching, drawing and painting at SUNY Plattsburgh since 1994. The exhibit, which will be on display until Jan. 28, 2007, in the Burke Gallery, Myers Fine Art Building, is a collection of his paintings, drawings and watercolors. Last year, Russom and his family traveled to Italy and more than 30 works were created from his research during the trip. These works join a select group of earlier pieces to complete the exhibit.

Italy proved to be a dynamic and challenging environment for Russom to create.

"The elegance and power of Italy energized my responses to the palette," said Russom. "I see the paintings produced from the sabbatical as related, but distinct from my previous work in which the industrial landscape was the primary catalyst."

Focusing on the architecture in Assisi, Perugia and Rome, the paint-



ings respond to the unique light and color specific to these regions.

Russom views this exhibition as being both an opportunity to display the developments in the art he has created as well as an educational tool for his students.

Russom received his Master of Fine Arts in painting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His works have been exhibited in Vermont, Canada, Washington, D.C. and throughout the United States. □

>> NOTEBOOK

- Classes may be delayed or cancelled on days when weather conditions, particularly during winter, are extreme. Every effort will be made to notify the campus community and those living off campus of changes in class schedules due to the weather. Information will be disseminated via radio, television, Internet and telephone. Students can call the Class Line at 564-CLAS (2527), and employees can call the Snow Line at 564-SNOW (7669).
- The third annual Sodexo/Cardinal Hockey Charity Dinner will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center. This year, the men's ice hockey team has invited the women's team to join in hosting the event. The hockey team members will serve dinner and will "work" for tips by singing, dancing and performing skits. These tips will then be donated to Make-a-Wish Foundation. The dinner will also feature a silent auction of Cardinal/NHL hockey memorabilia. For more information, pricing and to reserve your spot, contact Stephen Moffat at stephen.moffat@plattsburgh.edu